

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: kd7s@psnw.com (Bill Jones)
Subject: [418] 40-9er Ain't No Toy
Message-ID: <199609250100.SAA04864@sierra.psnw.com>

Hello to all 40-9er lovers

Bob Cutter, KI0G wrote:

>>That rig is a REAL WORKING RADIO, ***but*** in all frankness, it is
>>really more of a conversation piece than anything else.

I couldn't let this one get past me without a comment. I use my 40-9er on a regular basis and am no longer surprised as its performance. In fact, I take it for granted. The problem of no offset can be worked around. I usually call a station slightly high in frequency than what they're using. As often as not, they don't move but rather just adjust their RIT to compensate. If they do zero-beat my signal, I retune when listening and go back down when transmitting. It's not hard to do unless you're running very fast QSK.

As for working other stations, I consistently work other stations one to two thousand miles away while running 750 mW into a Butternut HF6V-X mounted on the roof. I'm still struggling to snag my first JA station but sooner or later will make it. If I had a crystal for 7.010 kHz I'm sure I'd have one by now.

Yes, the 40-9er does have some limitations but QRPers are used to that sort of thing.

=====
Bill Jones - KD7S <><
Sanger, California
Reply to kd7s@psnw.com
=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Peter Chow <pchow@cisco.com>
Subject: [414] 40-9er rev. B
Message-ID: <199609241955.MAA00789@waterboy.cisco.com>

I received my kit while I'm at Foothill swap meet earlier this month. Finally, I put everything together and start testing it.

One thing I noticed was whenever I hit the key to turn on the TX circuit, the 2SC799 gets very hot.

Finally, I stood the RFC3 and RFC4 up so that they are far apart from each other and now I am getting a sine wave output across my dummy load. I remembered that there seems to be a self oscillation problem with the 40-9er, but I looked at my June QRPp and people reported only a "squeak" on transmit. Is this "squeak" unique to Rev. A PCB ?

My initial calculation shows that it is putting out more than 1W with 12V input. I'll put the whole thing in the Altoids box and see what I can get.

72,
KQ6JH

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: "George T. Pasek Jr." <pasek001@maroon.tc.umn.edu>
Subject: [395] 49er Operation ?
Message-ID: <41368.pasek001@maroon.tc.umn.edu>

OK, here goes...

I set the 49er to the center of it's tuning range and key up then I tune my Kenwood TS-440s RX to it. I unkey the 49er and key up the 440 and hear nothing on the 49er because I'm right smack in the center of the zero beat.

So my question is how do you operate the 49er when it doesn't use a BFO or have a frequency offset between transmit and receive?

If I'm calling CQ and someone comes back to me I'll never hear them unless they are off frequency, and then how much they are off is the frequency of the cw tone I'd hear; if they were off 300hz then I'll hear a 300hz tone which is still tough for my ears.

So obviously I'm missing something here..... Help !!

tnx
de George
WD0AKZ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: frank paxton iii <paxton@sound.net>

Subject: [397] ? shielded twin lead ?
Message-ID: <3247DB43.24C9@sound.net>

i was talking to a friend that is working with qrp in the 1.6 gig range. very lossy. is there such a thing as shielded twin lead that a person could experiment with as a 'balanced feedline' ? small (thin) coax is WAY to lossy and even 1/4" superflex hardline is WAY to bulky and cumbersome ...
frank. ng0n.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: "Dan Tayloe-P26412" <Dan_Tayloe-P26412@email.mot.com>
Subject: [412] Another QRP AField Report from AZ
Message-ID: <M27145037.251.8x36y.1.960924164326Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=SATCG/OU=AZBH/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

QRP A Field was great! At this time, I own only one working rig, a 40m Sierra like homebrew transceiver (different IF and has an IRF510 MOSFET for a final). Although it will put out up to 2 watts, I ran 0.95 watts for the contest (I reported 1 watt).

After hitting the local 24 hour grocery store for the days supply of munchies, I was on the road at 4:30 am, headed for the Four Peaks mountains about 50 miles Northeast of Phoenix.

The goal was not the mountain itself (to much hiking!), but rather a ridge running to the northwest of the mountain which has an outstanding view in all directions except to the south east where the mountain peaks lay.

The 20 mile dirt road leading to this ridge was extremely rugged. The family mini-van had a tough two hour go of it. I reached the ridge by 7:30 am.

I had chosen two telescoping sections of 125 schedule PVC to support a 40m inverted V. This was a poor choice for a support mast. However, after two hours of struggling with my "spaghetti tower", I had the antenna secure at the top of a steep 300 ft rise off one side of the ridge road. At a 4500 ft elevation, this was a perfect place for an antenna.

It was a great day in the moutains. Clear skies, a light breeze, 80 degrees, no bugs and great views!

With no civilization for a 20 mile radius, the location was

exceptionally quite. I could hear much better than I could be heard with my 0.95 watt signal. Way down just above the noise I could copy stations from Tenn., and further east, but they could not hear me. I called NN9K many times, but could get no response.

I heard KU7Y and his QRPP station several times, but did not get a chance to work him. The rig was QRO here.

In a qrp contest, it is strange to think of 5w and 2w stations as "big guns", but for me NA5N (NM) and KG5N (CO) certainly qualified all afternoon long.

On 40m, I got out to CA, CO, UT, NM, OR, and AZ. Out of the 26 stations, I worked 6 states, and four of them were from AZ (AB7PF, AA7QY, AB070A, and W5VB0). I will have to find out how many of these were scQRPions.

I have been off the air for about 10 years and I have only had my new rig together and on the air for about two weeks. Thanks for one and all for putting up with my somewhat shaky cw.

Already visions of 20m and 15m versions of my present rig (and 30m and 17m!) are forming. I think also a call to Texas Towers is also in order as several nice trap verticals would be much easier to manage than PVC!

I quit at 5:30, an hour and a half early, so that I could pack up before dark. It had dropped a chilly 68 degrees before I left (when you live in Phoenix, your concept of "chilly" gets warped). By 8:30, I was back at home in the Foothills section of Phoenix, where the temperature was a more balmy 90 degrees.

Great Contest! I cannot wait until the next one.

P.S. I filled for a drawing for a new call more appropriate to AZ, so a call change will be in order one of these days.

Dan Tayloe, WB0NVB, Phoenix, AZ QRP-L # 696

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us>
Subject: [404] Bob Tellefsen "How to do Field Day QRP" at Pacificon
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19960924090551.25ef4f36@telis.org>

Bob Tellefsen, N6WG, will be one of the QRP Forum speakers at the West Coast QRP Symposium to be held at Pacificon 96 in Concord, CA at the

Concord Hilton on Oct. 19th & 20th. The Symposium is being sponsored by NorCal QRP Club, and there is NO additional charge other than registration to Pacificon, which is \$3 in advance, \$4 at the door. We will have 6 QRP forums, 5 on Saturday and 1 on Sunday morning. Plus, the highlight should be the QRP Hospitality Room and Show and Tell Open House Saturday night from 7PM to ??? in the same room as the Forums are held.

Bob has operated QRP FD for the past several years and has been highly successful with his FD group. They have won the 8A class for 10 years in a row. Bob will give hints on the how to. He will share secrets of success, plus give practical hints on a successful FD. His presentation will include a multipage handout that is a virtual checklist on Field Day. Topics Bob will cover include: Location, Antennas, Equipment, Preparation, Pre and Post FD Planning. Hope to see you there. Bob will also be attending the QRP Show and Tell Open House and will be available for one on one questions and answers at that time.

Preston Douglas, of this list, is also doing Name Badges for the West Coast QRP Symposium. Send Preston a message requesting a free name badge if you will be attending the Symposium.

Hope to see you there. 72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [410] Fox Hunt Rules
Message-ID: <199609241838.LAA08228@dancris.com>

I have posted Chuck's rules on my web page, verbatim. If you missed the note he sent, or need to refresh yourself, they can be found at
<http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn/foxrules.html>.

This may be a duplicate post, as I haven't seen the first one I sent yet. If so, sorry.

73,

Bob KI7MN NorCal 1221 ARCI 8918 Qrp-l 271 CQC 274 ARRL (Not in any order of importance!)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: William.Redfearn.cmwdrr01@nt.com
Subject: [393] FS: MFJ 2420 SSB/CW 20M rig
Message-ID: <"8246 Tue Sep 24 06:24:17 1996"@nt.com>

For Sale:

MFJ 2420 SSB rig with
415 CW adaptor.
In great shape, everything works fine.
includes RS mike, manual and box.

For a local pick up I will include a 20 Meter Dipole
with coax.
Asking \$200.00 + shipping in the lower 48.

Palomar Noise Bridge
works fine, paint flaked off in a couple of places.
with box and manual.
\$25.00 + shipping.

73 - Dave.

=====
Dave Redfearn, Sr RF Systems Engineer NORTEL RTP, NC.
ph.(919) 992-3925 email: william.redfearn.cmwdrr01@nt.com
qrl? de N4ELM/qrp

All opinions are my own, no one else wants them.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [417] JOIN, N.E. QRP CLUB
Message-ID: <199609242236.SAA54133@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Hello Gang,

The N.E, qrp club is a unique outfit, no, elections because there are no
officers. We are self controled anarchists that really enjor QRP.

You are here by invited to join and contribute your own version of anarchy.
Dennis Marandos is our news letter editor and is always looking for aritcles
relating to QRP for the news letter. What are YOU doing? Others would be glad
to know, even if you think that it isn't that important, what the heck,
send it in.

The following is an application for the N.E. qrp club. Please send your
check to the right guy, that is not me. I just do publicity.

cut here

The new membership chairman for NE QRP Amateur Radio Club is

William Mc Nally AE1D
7 Blueberry Road
Windham, NH 03087

The above address is for NEW membership applications:

Last Name: First Name:
Call Sign: NE-QRP Number if Renewal
Mailing Address:
Phone Number: License Class: Age:
Former Amateur Call[s]: (Year first licensed)

Indicate whether you're a member in the following organizations:

QRP ARCI __ Michigan QRP ___ G-QRP ___ NorCal QRP ___

Other QRP CLUBS too numerous to mention, but equally important_____

(QRP is growing by leaps and bounds, it is not possible to mention them all here.)

What QRP awards have you won or achievements have you accomplished?

"Who are you" and what do you like about QRP? (This is important)

Please write a couple of paragraphs about yourself, and we'll pass it along to our Member's News Editor.

Indicate whether you're a member of the ARRL. Yes ___ No ___

Would you like to be an officer/director in the NE-QRP Club? Yes___ No_____

Please check the box which interests you most:

Ragchewing ____ DX ___ Contest ___ Traffic ___ Awards ___

Homebrewing ___ VHF/UHF ___ Packet___ CW _____ SSB __

RTTY ___ ATV ___ Satellite ___ HF ___

Other _____

The cost is \$10.00 and renewals are \$10.00 per year. Outside

USA please add \$5.00. The club year begins in January, and renewals are from September to December for the following year. Please make you check or money order payable to: QRP Club of New England.

Send new to above address.

RENEWALS to

Bill Studley AA10C E-MAIL:aa10c@concentric.net
133 Babosic Lake Rd.
Merimack, NH. 03054

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)
Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [400] Kenwood
Message-ID: <199609241431.HAA02546@dancris.com>

Not necessarily qrp, but the recent discussioin about Kenwood's decision to start selling their gear at truck stops, etc., is interesting. A letter in QST got the response that ARRL had been talking to Kenwood, and their answer is that we misunderstood their intentions. Anyway, for Kenwood's position, go to [html://www.kenwood.net](http://www.kenwood.net), and find the 'important announcement'. Bunch of hogwash, IMO.

If this ticks you off, sri for the bandwidth.
73,

Bob KI7MN NorCal 1221 ARCI 8918 Qrp-l 271 CQC 274 ARRL (Not in any order of importance!)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: "Thomas J. Whalen" <whalen@swcp.com>
Subject: [388] Knightlights Net
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960923230139.22144A-100000@kitsune.swcp.com>

I listened this past Sunday for some action on 3.710 and didnt hear anyone. Is this net still active. QRN was real heavy last Sunday. Maybe next time we will make it. Tom WB5QYT QRP-L #640

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: "L. Jeffrey Hetherington" <jhetheri@freenet.npiec.on.ca>
Subject: [383] LM380N 14-pin Question.
Message-ID: <Pine.SGI.3.93.960924001359.1663B-100000@freenet.npiec.on.ca>

Hi Guys. Its been a while, but I have another request for infomation. This one is for a local club member with no computer, so I hope the question doesn't create too many questions to clarify...(He's much more technically oriented than I am at this stage.)

He is looking for the circuit diagram for the LM380N 14-pin chip. Does anybody have that diagram? Please email me, and I'll pass the message along.

As always, I'm sure that you will be helpful. Such a nice bunch of guys ... 8-).

73/72
Jeff - VA3JFF

=====
L. JEFFREY HETHERINGTON
Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada
E-Mail : jhetheri@freenet.npiec.on.ca

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com

Subject: [421] Low-noise antennas?

Message-ID: <960924221021_316775054@emout12.mail.aol.com>

I have read assertions that large and small loop antennas and other "closed" antennas such as folded dipoles may reduce "noise" during reception. I've also read that DC grounding the antenna; or using resistors and chokes to shunt static will also help "noise".

OK- I can see that a loop or a sharply resonant antenna might act as a preselector for a receiver and may keep out broadcast "intermod"... also, with both leads of the antenna at the same DC potential that may help with static. Is there something else I'm missing here? It seems to me there are many kinds of "noise" these antenna authors do not describe.

Also, does anyone have remarks on allband 2-30 MHz antenna and tuner designs which would help in the "noise" situations above- as well as help in a "noisy" receive location 300 feet away from some nasty HV power lines? DC ground the balun in the tuner? Use a closed loop instead of a G5RV or Center-fed Zepp antenna?

Something to kick around. And those of us in noisy locations would be grateful.

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996

From: TonyDrumm@ibm.net (Tony Drumm)

Subject: [382] MN Afield

Message-ID: <199609240416.EAA176169@smtp-gw01.ny.us.ibm.net>

Sunny and warm? I'm jealous. Here in southeastern MN, it was cold and drizzly. Dave, KG0ZT, and I met at a local park (too close to the highway noise, we decided later). Strung up the homebrew G5RV I built for boy scout summer camp connected by twinlead to an MFJ QRP tuner. At summer camp, I put it up as an inverted V. When I tried to use my 49er, I couldn't get the antenna tuned and set the 49er into self-oscillation. This time, we did it as a normal T. Had AA0SM on the air a few minutes before 1800Z.

Had my 20m Explorer I and Dave's 40m Explorer II. And the 49er (Altoid case, of course). Started off pretty well on 20. Tried 40 a little but didn't seem to have much luck. I think the Explorer II needs some alignment (that's my excuse, and I'm sticking to it!). But we did manage one QSO on the 49er (N9DD in South Bend, IN), my first running it from a 9v battery. I

think it was probably around 200mW but I gave a liberal 250mW for the exchange.

I used my curtis keyer in a mouse and Dave used a straight key. I used the straight key with the 49er since my keyer lacks its own sidetone. Eventually, we weren't hearing very many new stations and the QSOs started coming farther apart. Kept wishing W5VBO would change his callsign. He was there with a great signal and working others left and right.

After about 3 hours and a couple coffee runs, we called it a day. Netted only 12 QSOs but 10 states, east to New England, west to Oregon, south to Texas. I had fun and was quite pleased with the 49er QSO. Dave was thrilled to see QRP in real action. We'll be tuning his Explorer II here soon. Then he has to get busy with all the kits he's accumulating.

Of course, Sunday was sunny, warm, and beautiful. Go figure! If there is a Winter field day, be sure to figure in a multiplier inversely related to temp - or wind chill. MN, get it? Do gel cells still work at -30F? Would the 30knot winds make a difference?

72.

Tony Drumm
ARS AA0SM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [384] NE Field....
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960923211800.14163E-1000000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

OK All,

I just gotta tell you this one.....must qualify for the idiot of the day award.... :-)

I was calling cq test and after a little pause someone told me I wasn't running 5 watts. I thought I must have had a nice signal there and they were doubting my power.

I sent back 4w, which is what I was running. They sent back the same reply as before...."NO 5W".....after a couple of times I woke up and realized it was N05W calling! He was running 100w from AR.

That was my last contact at 2354z. How will I ever make another 48 grind if I get that rummy after only 6 hours?

: -)

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Norbert.Heyder@erno.de
Subject: [392] Passive Preselector for Receiver Frontend
Message-ID: <9609241027.AA02258@mail-s.erno.de>

Hi gang,

I like to describe an external passive L/C preselector
(tuneable 5Mc to 30Mc) to be used to overcome the low receiver
interception point of my QRP+.

If you look into the QRP+ schematics you will find no receiver bandpass
selection.

Especially if you use fullsize antennas, each and everything caught by the
antenna hits the mixer! This results in noticable receiver noise and
pseudo BC signals spaced with 5Kc on 7Mc, 10Mc and 14Mc during the early
evening hours when receiving signal strength reaches its maximum.
After putting the simple preselector into the receiver line I felt that
I got a new receiver!!!

I must say that this preselector is also a great improvement for my
japanese receiver frontends! (Some of the "adult radios" have the receiver
frontent by sockets alraedy available at the backside)
It's for sure that any preselector design would be an improvement for all
rigs missing a receiver bandpass.

Excuse:

Should also say that my description, when reading, looks a bit complicated.
But the only complicated thing is the way I did the description itself - the
preselector is really very simple. The reason is that I'm missing the proper
"matching words" for such a more or less technical description in foreign
language. So I have to describe everything in a circumstantial way.
Did you ever produced an appealing schematic with such restricted ASCII
character facilities?
(Ask me for description in German language, hi)

So here we go,

First an overview to get your interest:

- Nothing really new, just an old hat, very easy to build but the results are great!
- The preselector uses only 4 basic electrical passive components by putting two tuneable parallel resonant circuits in cascade.
- The tricky thing: Because the two resonance circuits are coupled only inductive (instead of capacitive) the coupling factor between the resonance circuits is constant over a wide frequency range!

No interest? Stop here ==> Trash

For all the others left, here are the details:

=====

I assume it is not worth to draw a wellknown parallel resonance(L/C) schematic with ASCII character set, hi.

'Preselector Signal Flow'(instead of a circuit diagram):

1. Antenna signal arrives the preselector at a BNC or Cinch socket(input).
2. The input socket is connected to a coupling coil consisting of 2 wounds.
3. The coupling coil couples the RF signal to the first of two parallel resonant L/C circuits. The coupling coil is placed on the same corpus/
pipe
(at the cold end!) like the coil of the resonant L/C circuit.
4. When operating, the L/C circuit has to be tuned by the variable
capacitor
to be resonant on your working frequency.
5. The RF signal is coupled to an identical second parallel resonant L/C circuit by its magnetic Rf field. This second circuit shall be resonant on the same frequency like the first circuit(Two parallel resonant
circuits
in series coupled only magnetically)!
6. The coupling coil of the second resonant circuit (again 2 wounds)
couples
the RF signal out.
7. A connection between the above(6.) coupling coil and the second BNC/
Cinch
socket lets the Rf signal coming out of the preselector.
- option 8. The preselector may be completely 'bridged' by a simple switch
connecting
the two sockets when switched ON.

So the preselector works as a very small filter, passing only those frequencies

that you have tuned with the variable capacitor(s). This preselector is much smaller in bandwidth than the ordinary (sometimes insufficient) fixed bandpass circuits to be found in common factory rigs!

Detailed parts list (you may alter everything depending on your junkbox):
(sorry, but all measurements are in decimal system)

- 2 identical coils (with core), should show about 3 mikroHenry each after completion

the physical measurements of my coils are:

- Coil Diameter (corpus): 12mm
- Coil Corpus vertical Length (min.): 25mm
- 26 turns of wire (no spacing)
- 2 separate coupling wounds (no spacing) placed at the cold end of the 26 turns.
These 2 separate wounds are needed to provide the preselectors input and output.

- isolated (varnish) copper wire for all coils, diameter: 4mm

- 2 variable capacitors, 320pF each.

I took one with two rotor/stator packets mounted on the same axis.

It looks similar like the ones in ordinary AM radios but isn't!

The AM radios using different capacities on the same axis for tuning different frequencies (pre-stage, oscillator) - but we need exactly two times the same capacity! Of course you can also use two separated variable capacitors which means less comfort when tuning.

Using less capacity restricts the preselectors range (5..30Mc) on low working frequencies; in this case put a few additional coil wounds instead!

- an optional switch only to bridge the whole thing to demonstrate the improvement when the switch is open, hi!
- a metal case with 2 BNC or Cinch sockets to connect the preselector with the rig

Wiring:

- I mounted the two coils vertical and parallel with a spacing of 25mm, but close to the variable capacitors. This results in a loose coupling of the two resonant circuits which is desired to make this bandpass as small as possible with an acceptable loss of 5dB!

I put everything (coils together with the varicaps) on an

'experimental' PC-Board! Use as much 'grounding' as possible!

If you use a pair of coils with significant different physical sizes than mine, you should start experiment again to find the proper coil spacing! I did my experiments with the given coil sizes to find the above results.

- Connect all 'cold ends' of all coils to ground.
- Use one resonant circuit with its (2 wound) coupling to connect with the BNC or Cinch socket, connect the other resonant circuit with its (2 wound) coupling with the other BNC/Cinch socket. As you will see, Input and Output of the preselector is symmetric and not determined.

Fine Tuning:

The goal should be:

Make the two L/C circuits to work in parallel as much as possible to reach a small bandwidth. This also means less losses(max. 5dB) by the fixed given coils distance of ca. 25mm.

Put the preselector between your TRX and your antenna, but in this case, don't transmit with this TRX, hi!

1. Choose a 'constant signal' source at the low end of the preselectors frequency range(e.g. another rig).
2. Tune the preselectors variable capacities carefully to maximum S-Meter reading.
3. Tune with the cores of both coils repetivly to maximize S-Meter reading.

Repeat step 2 and 3 several times.

If you cannot reach the 'one and only' resonant point with the two circuits, this is a sign that the two L's are too close together. I made this experience! You then got the two L's 'critical coupled', resulting in much more bandwidth and two resonant points in the curve. This is not what we want - just take more space to separate the two coils(lose coupling)!

Thats all to build the preselector!

QRP+ Modifications(not absolutely necessary!):

Because the thing should not consume additional power it has to be absolutely passive and so it has no RX/TX switching relais inside. Therefore I connected it to the receiver frontend just between the QRP+ RX/TX antenna switch relais and the receiver input. An ideal point is the most upper RF-Board with its receiver input coax connector placed at one edge at the rear.

I snipped the QRP+ receiver input line before it reaches the RF-Board(brown teflon coax cable with coax-plug at the upper left). Let the two snipped ends lead to 2 additional Cinch-Sockets which I installed at the backside of the QRP+ case. (back side view: upper right, enough space there!). Yes, for that you have to drill two holes into the nice magic cube at the upper right rear side! Take your drill and be a man!
These two sockets are to connect later on via coax cable with the external preselector.

Good luck with your new receiver frontend!

72 de Norbert, DL8BDF QRP-L #204

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: camqrp@cyberg8t.com (Cam Hartford)
Subject: [413] QRP Afield
Message-ID: <199609241945.MAA02559@key.cyberg8t.com>

Gang -

I finally decided it was time to take some of this portable gear I'd been collecting and put it to use. A backpack effort in QRP Afield seemed to be the logical choice, since it also allowed me to make a piggy-back entry to the Adventure Radio Society.

A half hour by car and another 2 hours on foot got me to the top of a ridge near Mt. Baldy from where the view to the North and East over the high desert was just spectacular. Unfortunately, the size and shape of the trees indicated that there was probably a prevailing Westerly breeze of at least 30 knots. The trees were short, stumpy, and all of the branches grew on the East side of the trunk! No bother, it was clear, sunny, and no wind was blowing. I got up a 40M dipole at about 18 feet. Since I was up on the top of a ridge, I figured the height of the antenna wasn't a big concern.

That part about "another 2 hours on foot" bears a little more explanation. I went from 6200' to 8200' in 4 miles, carrying about 25 pounds of gear (radio, tuner, antenna, battery, food, clothes). For most of us who have sedentary lifestyles and have seen at least a half-century go by, it's probably no surprise that by the time I reached the operating site, I was pooped. Done in. Flogged. Just getting the silly antenna put up took an hour. I need to check the topo map more closely next time.

So I got to start operating an hour later than planned, around 1700Z. 40 was dead city, with just a few Q's made in several tries. 20 was much better, but it was a very curious experience. There was absolutely no QRN since I

was many miles from the nearest powerline. Coming from a noisy urban environment, I was used to hearing QRP signals come and go out of the noise. But up here they just boomed in, popping out of the quiet background like mini-killowatts.

I had the Sierra turned down to 1 watt, and found that at that level, I was hearing people much better than they were hearing me. Perhaps they were battling the QRN that I didn't have. It seemed like pulling teeth to get Qs into the log.

Sitting on the ground, or propped up against a tree got mighty tiresome after a couple hours. A lawn chair would have come in real handy. I can see I need to refine the creature comfort aspect of this sport if I'm going to continue. I vowed to redouble my efforts on a "Trail Freindly Radio" as soon as I got home. That will be a distinct improvement over the conventional "controls on front panel, sit it on a table" radio.

Aching muscles and joints dictated that I wimp out and take the ski lift back down the mountain. Perhaps I'll use it to go up next time.

Final results: 20 Qs in about three hours of operating, 4 on 40m and 16 on 20M. Best DX for the day was NN1G from VT. It sure was good working all those familiar calls. Golly, this contesting stuff is fun! Think I'll try to do some more of it...

72/73,

Cam N6GA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
Subject: [415] QRP AFIELD
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960724204325.00c21428@fix.net>

>From head wounds to Fun Stuff, Kite Flying without wind to Kite Flying on a Sail Boat and much

much more.

All the QRP-L QRP AFIELD/QRPTTF in one place with a hot linked table of contents.

Great reading,,,check it out.....

Off the NorCal Page,,,,, <http://www.fix.net/norcal.html>

72,,,Jerry...WA6OWR...K

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us>
Subject: [411] QRP ARCI Building & Design Contest
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19960924110135.25ef9b72@telis.org>

Guys, the deadline for the entrants to the QRP ARCI Building and Design Contest is Nov. 1. If you can get your entries to me sooner, so much the better. Here are the rules for the first part of the contest, which is open to designers.

1. The one of cost of parts must be \$25 or less.
2. The project must be QRP related.
3. QRP ARCI has the right of first publication of the articles. If the project requires a circuit board, artwork must be submitted for the pc traces and the component side.
4. NorCal will kit the winning entry and it will become the building contest design for the NorCal sponsored 3rd Annual Dayton Building Contest.
5. The winning entry will receive a suitable plaque.
6. Entry deadline is Nov. 1, 1996.
7. Send all entries to:
Doug Hendricks
862 Frank Ave.
Dos Palos, CA 93620

If you have further questions, please contact me via email.

The purpose of the Design part of the building contest is to encourage design of simple projects that can be published in QRP ARCI's Journal, QRP Quarterly, or QQ for short. We need more building project articles for QQ, and this is an idea that I had to generate them. NorCal is sponsoring the contest to support QRP and to support QRP ARCI. This should

be a win-win situation.

I have received one entry so far, from Joe Everhart, and it is a dandy. (No it is not the Gusher II Antenna). Hope to hear from more of you soon. 72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: na5k@juno.com (Smitty Smith)
Subject: [391] QRP mobile, go, go, go
Message-ID: <19960923.233056.4598.1.na5k@juno.com>

Mike,

I haven't seen very many replies to this one, so I thought that I would throw in a few thoughts.

On 21 Sep 96 15:35:07 EDT "Michael J. Hayes" <74672.2764@CompuServe.COM> writes:

>
>
>I am looking for comments and experiences on running QRP mobile. I have an Argo
>556 with 20 and 40 meter modules. I am looking for answers to some of the
>following questions:
>
> etc...
>

I have operated CW mobile every day on the way to/from work here in TEXAS for about 12 years. I have done a fair share of QRP mobile, so I will address that issue.

The antenna is going to make a big difference. Plenty of people go mobile with 100 watts connected to some kind of inefficient antenna but still make contacts. However, try that same inefficient antenna with a QRP rig and you will be talking to yourself.

I use a bug catcher, which is a good way to go mobile, but it is not a cheap way to go mobile.

Of the antennas that you listed, I would suggest the hamstick. I work lots mobiles with hamsticks and they sound fine. Hamsticks are economical, so you won't be out much if you decide that /M is not the thing for

you. Ask around to find out the best way to mount one on your auto. BTW, mobile antennas tend to be one of those sociological, philosophical, technological religious subjects that attracts lots of opinions :-)

Forty meters is going to be your best bet in the morning. Until a few months ago, I was on from about 6 AM CST until 7 AM. Now I am on from about 7:30AM CST until 8AM. There are more stations on at the later time.

Twenty meters can be pretty good in the evening, driving home.

I have worked Europe and Japan with the Norcal 40A from the car (40 meters of course). I have also worked plenty of DX on twenty meters with the OHR Classic and the Sierra. That is not an everyday happening, but when it does happen, you go nutz :-)

With a 30 minute commute at about 8AM Central, I sometimes make 2 or 3 contacts QRO. With QRP, I consider myself lucky with one good contact. Sometimes I don't make any contacts. But, even after all of these years, I still get a big buzz out of CW /M.

Should you try it? Hell yes, everybody should try it :-)

CUL,

Smitty, NA5K/m

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [403] R2 Kits
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.960924114824.12495C-100000@u1.abs.net>

Those of you looking for R2 Boards/Kits might want to contact Bill Kelsey of Kanga US. He will gladly sell you one.
email kanga@brutus.bright.net
(419)423-5643 7-11 pm Eastern Time

72,73 es

QRP DX TU (C) 1986 G.Danny Gingell, K3TKS@.abs.net
Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library, (301)572-6789

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Andy Stafford <100412.3337@compuserve.com>
Subject: [396] Ten Tec E-Mail Address
Message-ID: <960924124841_100412.3337_BHG60-1@CompuServe.COM>

During my trip to 8Q7 my Argonaut 535 was damaged. Fortunately it still worked. Can somebody let me know Ten Tec's E-mail address please. I need to consult them!!

72

Andy Stafford
G4VPM/8Q7AS

A full report on my trip and operation will follow in the next few days. I have now resubscribed to QRP-L.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: PaulKB8N@aol.com
Subject: [419] Varicaps, rare find
Message-ID: <960924212933_484660567@emout09.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

All the rotary inductors have been sold, but I still have some quantities of the capacitors left. A parts buyer has offered to buy remaining stock, but I'd rather see this stuff go to folks who will use it.

>The first type has four sections, two 2-20pf, one 6-100pf and one 8-200pf. Size is >1"x1"x1.5". They are \$3.00 ea, or 2 for \$5.

>The second has three sections, one 5-170pf, on 5-100 pf. and one 10-210pf. Size >is 1"x1"x1.25". They are \$4.00 ea or 2 for \$7.

>I also have three EF Johnson rotary inductors, model -201, max value of 18uH. >These are usable at any power level, but are the perfect rotary inductor for a wide->range tuner. They are \$25.00 each . **SOLD**

Please include shipping for the above. I will include some instructions on building antenna tuners with your order.

I appreciate the opportunity to use the qrp forum to encourage homebrewing. The greatest joy I've had in ham radio has come from building something that has worked successfully, especially when built from scratch. Antenna tuners are among the easiest projects that one can build "from scratch". I am

building up a significant stock of parts for antenna tuners, and hope to establish a web page in the future. Please contact me for any parts needs.

I will continue to look for parts that I can pass along to the qrp community.

Look forward to hearing from you. Keep building!

Paul, KB8N

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996

From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>

Subject: [401] Re: 49er Operation ?

Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960924103920.21054C-1000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Tue, 24 Sep 1996, George T. Pasek Jr. wrote:

> If I'm calling CQ and someone comes back to me I'll never hear them unless
> they are off frequency, and then how much they are off is the frequency of
> the cw tone I'd hear; if they were off 300hz then I'll hear a 300hz tone
> which is still tough for my ears.
> So obviously I'm missing something here..... Help !!

No you are not. If you even get 300hz off, you will be lucky.

Making an unmodified 49er contact is about the most difficult thing I've ever done in 20 years of hamming, and for that alone it is immensely satisfying!

I wish more people would talk about this, I read about all these folks planning to build 49ers (some as their MAIN RADIO!) and thinking they will work the world with it. Ain't gonna happen. Build your 49er for the LOVE of QRP and for what that little jewel represents - back to basics, primitive radio.

That rig is a REAL WORKING RADIO, ***but*** in all frankness, it is really more of a conversation piece than anything else. I've made 3 "real" contacts on the 49er and shook my head in disbelief each time.

I also have made 3 goofy contacts, like the one with K5F0 at Dayton as Chuck sat 15 feet behind me :-)

My advice is to keep trying! Sooner or later you will stumble across someone who has a radio just *slightly* out of alignment enough that THEY will provide enough transmit offset to be heard by your ears!

vy 73! =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)
Subject: [402] Re: 49er Operation ?
Message-ID: <199609241531.JAA27283@lynx.csn.net>

>
>That rig is a REAL WORKING RADIO, ***but*** in all frankness, it is
>really more of a conversation piece than anything else. I've made
>3 "real" contacts on the 49er and shook my head in disbelief each time.
>
Paul is correct but I have not found it as bad as he describes. I am up to
20 Q's with my unmodified 49'er and I view each one as a special
accomplishment. I also have a good antenna system which is really the
secret of any QRP contact, that and the ears on the other end.

An FT1000 it ain't but by tuning just to the high side of zero beat I find
good results. Once you have done this it is fairly easy to recognize the
correct tuning.

It has been the most fun and greatest satisfaction of any project I have
built to date.

72, Bob KI0G
QBF? ZUE

Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [420] Re: ? shielded twin lead ?
Message-ID: <960924220943_316774409@emout06.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-09-24 09:04:51 EDT, paxton@sound.net (frank paxton iii)
writes:

<<

i was talking to a friend that is working with qrp in the 1.6 gig range. very lossy. is there such a thing as shielded twin lead that a person could experiment with as a 'balanced feedline' ? small (thin) coax is WAY to lossy and even 1/4" superflex hardline is WAY to bulky and cumbersome ...
frank. ng0n.

>>

Frank and Group:

I don't know what would work well up in the GHz range. If the cable were very short, you might get by with "Twinax" cable. This is LAN cable. Impedance looks like 100-130 ohms and the cable is about 1/2" diameter. Special N-style fittings and chassis connectors are made for Twinax. You might also try pairing two coax cables, but be careful of sloppily dressed leads or lossy connectors at 1.6 Ghz. 300-ohm TV line used to be available with aluminum "shield" and a ground braid.

The use of shielded balanced line for multiband antennas (moving the topic from UHF down to HF and MF) interests me-

I would like to hear any comments or experiences in using Twinax, "paired" 75 or 93 ohm coax, or shielded TV line to feed allband antennas via a tuner. I am interested in keeping noise from computers, TVs and consumer junk out of my feedline. I will be using a tuner with a "current" balun and DC grounding on both sides of the balun to the tuner chassis. Will I also need to ground the shield of the Twinax or twin coax on the mast where my vee is fed in the center? I expect a little more loss than if 450 ohm ladder were used.

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: rxd7@hunny.INS.CWRU.Edu
Subject: [409] Re: Farr Circuits-Thanks !
Message-ID: <199609241800.0AA03331@hunny.INS.CWRU.Edu>

I like to thank all that responded to my quest for the address of Farr Circuits homepage. Appreciate the replay.

Thanks,

Dick Dell, WD8ISB

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Brian Dockter <brian@nds.com>
Subject: [407] RE: Getting Good RF Conn.....(long)
Message-ID: <96Sep24.102656pdt.171509-218+321@rainier.nds.com>

On Sep 23, 1:42pm, jbennett@ebmud.com wrote:
> Subject: RE: Getting Good RF Conn.....(long)
>
> Using this arrangement I was able to mount my vertical in the physical
> center of the roof without drilling any holes. Having it in the middle
> makes it much easier for me to run my radials; I've got 22 of them -
> five each for 10 - 40, and two on 80.

This brings up a question. Why have different radials for each band? Is it because the radials should be a certain fraction of a wavelength long? Is it so you can get a better radial system on the higher bands (by having more longer ones around)? If you are going to go to the effort of putting up 22 radials, shouldn't you make them as long as you can (within budget/space constraints of course)?

>From the reading I have done in the ARRL Antenna Book, I have been under the impression that even though more and longer radials are better, there comes a point of diminishing returns where putting up more radials does not add significantly to improving your ground plane.

Am I missing something here?

Thanks for your patience.

72,

Brian

--

Brian Dockter (KC7JZL)	Email: brian@nds.com
Sr. Software Engineer	Voice: 206-524-0014
Northwest Digital Systems	FAX: 206-524-3440

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: BOB KELLLOGG <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>
Subject: [406] Re: Knightlights Net
Message-ID: <199609241725.NAA07527@mh004.infi.net>

Hi Tom,

At 11:03 PM 9/23/96 -0600, you wrote:

>I listened this past Sunday for some action on 3.710 and didnt hear
>anyone. Is this net still active. QRN was real heavy last Sunday. Maybe
>next time we will make it. Tom WB5QYT QRP-L #640

Yep, the Knightlite net is very much alive -- it's so alive there were two
nets operating Sunday night, one slightly below 3710 and one slightly above.

The story is that AA4XX, Paul, was out of town, and WA4NID, Dave, just had a
baby, Mark, born on sunday. -- So, I had agreed to be NCS, and Danny Gingel
agreed to be back up if I couldn't do it.

I started calling the Net at 10:00 just below 3.7910. Propagation was very
poor, and QRN was extremely loud. (I just heard three check-ins) At about
10:10, Danny had not heard me and decided he'd better start the net. (He
was just above 3.710) He also got three check-ins, one of them KF2PH, Nick,
who had also checked in with me. It was not an exciting night. -- Very
frustrating for both NCS. Nick, of course, gets double bonus points for two
check-ins.

CUL, (next week)

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC

Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996

From: Mike Boice <kd0fx@worldnet.att.net>

Subject: [408] Re: my earlier post on soldering ground rods

Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960924173141.00675980@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

Many thanks to the plethora of email I received in response to my question.
Although several people described the step-by-step process of soldering the
cable braid to the copper-clad ground rod, the overwhelming response was
"don't bother - buy a clamp." Which is what I'll do. Several of the posts
also pointed out the danger of using a soldered ground connection as a
ground for lightening strikes (the solder will instantly vaporize, depriving
you of a ground connection). While I really hadn't thought about lightening
(this was just for an RF ground for the rigs), it's good to know, and
definitely something to avoid.

A clamping I will go.....

thanks again, guys

73,
mike KD0FX
Richland WA QRP-L #576

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: "Ahrens Tim" <tahrens@devmail.sps.mot.com>
Subject: [399] Re: NE Field....
Message-ID: <9608248435.AA843583704@devmail.sps.mot.com>

OK All,

I just gotta tell you this one.....must qualify for the
idiot of the day award.... :-)

I was calling cq test and after a little pause someone
told me I wasn't running 5 watts. I thought I must have
had a nice signal there and they were doubting my power.

I sent back 4w, which is what I was running. They sent back
the same reply as before...."NO 5W".....after a couple of
times I woke up and realized it was N05W calling! He was
running 100w from AR.

That was my last contact at 2354z. How will I ever make
another 48 grind if I get that rummy after only 6 hours?

73, Ron,

That's really cute Ron!! Reminds me of my novice days when
I got bent out of shape at a guy that was calling me a lid..

he said so..lid copy here....!!

cu

Tim WA5VQK

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996

From: rheight@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [385] Re: NE QRP AFIELD
Message-ID: <199609240448.VAA10526@primenet.com>

At 07:12 PM 9/23/96 -0700, Roger Hightower wrote:

>

>Sri OM, but AE0QY hasn't been issued yet.

>

My apologies..that was supposed to be a direct reply and not to the list

72/73 de Roger AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: kf2ph@juno.com (Nick Franco)
Subject: [389] Re: Portable Power Source
Message-ID: <19960923.222324.9254.0.kf2ph@juno.com>

I have one of those MVP battery packs. It was originally purchased from Price Club Costco for 20.00. I charged it up the first time and used it for my HW-8. It petered out quicker than I expected and I've never been able to charge the thing properly since. I tried a car battery charger and I tried the car cigar lighter while driving (which works better), but it still doesn't charge properly. I took it apart and found 2 Yuasu 4ah 6 vdc batteries in there, just like someone on this list mentioned. So I charged each 6v battery separately and they still don't charge like I expected. They did take some charge though. I put the battery in the car to play with the SW-30 and then try charging again. Maybe it will work next time. I'm very disappointed. Any comments??? Maybe I should just return the thing. I'd rather buy the audio filter for my NW-40 if this battery is never going to work right.

72

Nick - KF2PH
QRP-L # 13

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: "Thomas J. Whalen" <whalen@swcp.com>
Subject: [387] Re: QRP Afield/Afloat (long)

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960923224810.21010A-100000@kitsune.swcp.com>

On Mon, 23 Sep 1996, Ken Freedman wrote:

> I have been encouraged by a member of the list to publish this. What
> follows is a copy of my post to a friend describing our weekend trip,
> written while I could still feel the windburn on my face. Not only is it
> unpolished, but in fact a bit raw in places. If you are easily offended,
> hit the delete button now. Here is our weekend: N1QQV-N1QHU-WY1W
> QRP-Afloat.

>

>

> Hi Gary,

>

> Sorry I couldn't copy you during the Phone Net. I could hear your
> voice, but not the words. TNX for giving it a try. It was nice to hear
> from you, albeit thru a relay. A report on the goings on follows, and
> I'll try not to make it too boring.

>

> Friday afternoon Jack and I made the trip to Westerly to a marina
> on the Pawkatuck river. Had to assemble and inflate a small Zodiac boat
> with a 2 horse outboard to go out and fetch Jack's Catalina 27, My Turn,
> off her mooring and bring her to the dock. There followed about 3 hours
> of fetch and carry and small jobs to get the boat ready for sea and an
> antenna rigged from bow to masthead to stern, end fed with 450 ohm
> ladder line from the BAL output of the tuner. Checked into the Phone
> Net at 6PM with the QRP+. Dinner at a steakhouse, then worked Florida
> and New York with the QRP+. Early to bed with the boat still tied to the
> dock.

>

> Saturday morning, the alarm went off at 0h-dark-thirty. Butch
> joined us with coffee and doughnuts at 05:45. Threw the lines as day
> began to break and headed down river using the Iron Genoa. Cleared the
> channel about an hour later and set sails and shut the Iron Jenny down.
> Took one long tack to a position between Montauk point and Block Island
> then tacked and ran downwind to the bell bouy at the entrance to New
> Harbor. Beautiful day, and a fair wind. We picked up a mooring in New
> Harbor at 11:30 after an excellent sail with all of us in high spirits.

>

> Butch had brought along a \$26 cloth kite that he wanted to try.
> With a wind of about 10 knots, we flew it from the stern of the boat
> with 100' of string, then 130' of fine woven copper wire, then 300 ohm
> TV twinlead for a feed and about another 15' of string. The kite was
> amazingly stable. Just sat there, hour after hour while we operated and
> boats in the harbor kept coming by to see what-the-hell was going on!
> Butch and I swapped off alternately operating and eating and drinking.
> There was no shortage of food or beer aboard our vessel! At 6 PM we
> checked into the Phone Net and sent messages to our respective families

> using Butch's Scout at 50 watts. No problem! The Net folks were really
> great. We didn't try to figure out our score, so I can't tell you how
> well we did with the contest yet. Finally hauled the kite down and took
> the Zodiac ashore for dinner at the famed Aldo's on Block Island. Wind
> was very strong as we headed back across the harbor after dinner. Back
> aboard, we had a nitecap and looked for a WX map on my 5" TV. Hit
> the sack about 11. Beat! With the boat on a mooring half a mile from
> shore and a strong wind blowing, I slept with one ear open all night.

>

> This morning(Sunday), we were up about 6:30. Not much wind, but
> LOTS of fog. We took the Zodiac in again for breakfast. No hurry,
> since we needed to wait for the tide anyway. Breakfast was a bit
> somber, as we were contemplating navigating some tricky stuff in the
> fog, to re-enter the river at Watch Hill. Lots of rocks! Do-able, but
> nervous work! As luck would have it, when we returned from breakfast
> the wind came up and we sailed her right off the mooring, and by the
> time we cleared the channel the fog was almost gone.

>

> A fair wind again, if not quite so sunny. We got My Turn settled
> down on the long tack for the mainland and Butch tried a little CQ CQ
> with the antenna on the boat. Not much luck. Butch decided to try
> flying the kite while under way. Much Better! Butch and I worked
> several stations on 40 meters in this fashion over the next hour and a
> half. The kite is really marvelous! A twin engine airplane actually
> made a detour to get a look at the sailboat flying a kite! Then we ran
> out of wind. Actually, NWS hit this one right on the head about 48
> hours in advance. It happened just the way it was forecast. Got the
> kite back and secured the radios. We dropped the headsail and left the
> main up, and spent the next 90 minutes motoring. The wind started to
> fill in again from the north east, and we got the headsail back up about
> 4 miles from Watch Hill light. We knew the rain wasn't gonna be far behind
> the wind.

>

> The wind kept building as we ran down toward the river entrance,
> and Jack made the decision I was hoping for. Instead of motoring up the
> channel, we came hard on the wind and let her drive! The eyes of
> everyone near, or on, the river were on her as My Turn, with a bone in
> her teeth, charged into the channel. (Hey Maybelle! Look at those crazy
> bastards sailing up the channel!) Heeled over 30 degrees, with every
> line and inch of cloth bar taut, and the rig literally humming as the
> wind screamed through the shrouds, she made quite a sight! She
> sure-as-hell was quite a ride! Butch hung on for dear life (only his
> second time on a sailboat) while Jack drove her and I handled sails and
> did lookout duty for about 30 soul satisfying minutes, dodging river
> traffic and managing not to run her aground. Spectacular!

>

> The scut work (in the rain), cleaning up and putting the boat back
> on her mooring were a back-to-the-real-world reality check. Good

> company, good sailing, lots of radio! What a weekend...
>
> 73, Ken
>
>
> Ken Freedman
> AKA: N1QQV/QRP
>
> VE, EC Madison CT
>
> Living Proof That, "You don't have to be a blonde to be light headed!"
>
>
Great story!!! Kites fly better on water than they do in the desert on
NM. Sure wish we could have made a contact kite to kite!! Maybe next
time. Wish I was there on that boat!!! 73 and thanks for a good story!
Tom WB5QYT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: BOB KELLOGG <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>
Subject: [405] Re: Sierra And KC 2
Message-ID: <199609241725.NAA28880@mh004.infi.net>

Hi Ed,
At 01:17 PM 9/23/96 PDT, you wrote:
>I read Doug Hendricks' description of his recent experiences with his new
Sierra
>/KC-2 combo, and since I recently put together the same set of kits, wanted to
>add my own comments.

>But the Sierra/KC-2 combination is a great example of synergy; the whole is
>greater than the sum of its parts.

>splendid! The keyer is the best I have ever used, and the counter works
>flawlessly (and you can effortlessly set up offsets for four different bands).

Actually, guys, the counter can be set for four different *offsets* which
will cover many more than four *bands*. ie, 40M, 20M, 15M, and 28M all
start at even 1000s, so one offset works for all of those bands.

Sorry, Ed, I didn't mean to jump on your excellent letter, but thought the
one statement could use clarification. I agree with you 100%. The KC-2 is
a great accessory. The combination with the Sierra puts that rig in a class
by itself. I just ordered a second KC-2 to use with my other rigs.

CUL,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Probably, but not necessarily. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@spacestar.com>
Subject: [394] Re: soldering ground rod & wire
Message-ID: <199609241216.HAA20224@Spacestar.Net>

Mike Boice <kd0fx@worldnet.att.net> wrote this question:

> Never having done any soldering other than for electronics, I pose the
> following question: how do you solder a copper sheath from RG-8 to a
> copper-clad ground rod? I borrowed a propane torch and tried it with
some
> very old solid solder (i.e. no core material), but that just made a gray
> powdery mess. What's the scoop?

Basically you do with larger rosin core solder and propane torch.

However, it is not recommended that you solder connections to ground rods.
In the event of a lightning hit the connection will fail. Use heavy duty
grounding clamps. You can find them in our local building supply or
hardware store.

Hope this Helps.

Claton Cadmus |73 de KA0GKC
Application Technologies Inc. |ARRL, QRP-ARCI, NorCal
Ph. (612)926-8886 |ARCC, MNQRP&HB Society
Fax (612)926-8545 |ka0gkc@ka0gkc.ampr.org
E-mail cla@spacestar.com |ka0gkc@wb0gdb.#stp.mn.us

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: Bob Marsh <bmarsh@hicom.net>
Subject: [398] re: Subject: [371] soldering ground rod & wire
Message-ID: <3247DC5C.5C21@hicom.net>

Mike,

This type of soldering is more like "plumbing". Your best bet would be to install a clamp on type connector to the ground rod, and solder a short piece of wire to the coax braid. You can then connect it in the usual way.

If you MUST solder, however, try this:

1. Clean the ground rod with scotch brite to remove any oxidation.
2. Apply a little rosin based solder flux (plumbing stuff) to the cleaned area.
3. wrap the RG-whatever braid around the cleaned/fluxed area. (you can hold it in place with some hookup wire "twist ties")
4. With the torch, GENTLY begin to heat the area just below the joint, until the whole area heats up enough to melt the solder when it's touched to the top of the joint. DON'T apply the torch flame directly to the solder. Eventually, the solder will flow onto and "wet" the rod and braid.
5. Be gentle with the torch. If you overheat the joint, you'll have to take everything apart, clean it and start again. Also, once the solder starts to flow, move the flame away except to just maintain sufficient temp to get the solder to run properly.

Hope this helps.

73 de Bob/KB2SGM

>Mike, KD0FX wrote:

>Never having done any soldering other than for electronics, I pose the
>following question: how do you solder a copper sheath from RG-8 to a
>copper-clad ground rod? I borrowed a propane torch and tried it with some
>very old solid solder (i.e. no core material), but that just made a gray
>powdery mess. What's the scoop?

>

>73,

>mike KD0FX

>Richland WA QRP-L #576

--

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*****
Bob Marsh - KB2SGM <bmarsh@hicom.net> NJ-QRP #39 QRP-L #724.
  CW, QRP, Homebrew & Boatanchors - What a Mix
    "Jeez, is it REALLY supposed to do that?"
*****
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996

From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>

Subject: [390] Re: WINTER QRP-AFIELD
Message-ID: <199609240647.XAA26968@primenet.com>

Dear Fellow QRP Critters,

It has been brought to my attention that I neglected to explain what FYBO stands for in the FYBO Winter QRP Field Day. Rather than let Nils enumerate all grammatically possible combinations ;-)
I'll volunteer the info.

FYBO = Freeze Your B_____ Off

There. That's as far as we go. Fill it in to your heart's content, 'cuz that's the "oh-fish-ul" title. Bunions. Bananas. Or of course the more obvious choices.... :-)

Rules/date/times are frozen (bad sleep-deprived pun intended), I just want to add a paragraph or three in front of it to cover the contest philosophy ("Why a Field Day in the winter?"), etc. If all goes well at the office tonight/tomorrow, I should be able to toss it to the List by Wed AM.

Back to the data mines.

Cheers de KC7NEV,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPion #7

"Hi ho, Hi ho, to dump some core I go;
When programs bust, stack trace I must;
Hi ho, Hi ho!"

-a KC7NEV original. Patent pending.
Accept no substitutes.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: nskousen@scientechn.com (Niel Skousen)
Subject: [416] Re: WINTER QRP-AFIELD
Message-ID: <v02140b01ae6df6a1fffd@[198.60.91.132]>

>Howdy Folks,

>

>Ernie (AA1IK) wrote:

>>

>> A while back we had a thread going on a winter qrp afield contest/event
>> to keep the qrp-afield juices flowing. It doesn't have to be a contest,

>> but an out door event of some kind would be fun.
>
>For those interested, we AZ ScQRPions have finalized our
>gameplan for the FYBO Winter QRP Field Day...
<snip>
>
>So, mark your calendars for Feb 22nd, 1997...
<snip>
>
>Cheers de KC7NEV,
>
>-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPion #7
>
>"It's a dog-eat-dog world, and I'm wearing Milkbone underwear."

Now there are some interesting antenna issues...

- Dipole on Ice tuned via RF-1/MFJ er of 40-80, wonder what happens to the conductivity ??
- antenna on 40-70" of powder . .

I did some HF tactical antenna work a number of years ago with an array deployed on the ground (2el gave a broadband gain of -9.ish dBi at both NVIS and 15 deg. launch angles..) and a suprising amount can be accomplished with such an antenna.

A winter QTTF could present some very interesting opportunities.... :-)

I'll play (for what that's worth....:-)

Niel

Niel Skousen, SCIENTECH Special Projects nskousen@scientech.com
208.525.3742, FAX 529.4721 Idaho Falls ID WA7SSA QRP-L.119

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Sep 24 23:12:19 1996
From: faunt@netcom.com (Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604)
Subject: [386] Re: [324] How do you send an @ in CW?
Message-ID: <199609240448.VAA03865@netcom20.netcom.com>

There's nothing that's going to be any shorter than . _ _ is, so why

worry about it?

Many internet mailers in the early days accpeted "at" instead of "@".

73, doug